

RECOGNIZING THE FORT WALTON BEACH HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS AS 1A EXTRA LARGE VARSITY DIVISION STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the First Congressional District of Florida's Fort Walton Beach High School Vikings for winning the Extra Large Varsity 1A Division State title at the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) Cheerleading State Championship on January 31, 2014. This victory marks Fort Walton Beach High School's 10th state title at the FHSAA Cheerleading State Championship.

Truly an outstanding team effort put forth by all twenty-nine members, under the leadership of their talented coaches, Ms. Rachel Pritchard and Ms. Natalie Schmidt, there is no question that several performances contributed to the overall title. Even weather delays could not dampen the young men and women's motivation and concentration. When they finally took the stage in Kissimmee, the Vikings excelled at the competition. They scored 92.65 out of 100 in the preliminaries before claiming their victory in the Extra Large Varsity division and before hurrying back to Fort Walton Beach High School to cheer on the Girl's Basketball team in the District Finals.

I commend the young men and women of the cheer team—Alexa Allen, Kate Blanchard, Kacie Daugherty, Ammilia Dubbs, Alexus Flores, Sidney Freeman, Alexa Gaddis, Mary Gashaw, Niki Grater, Jesi Harrell, Ashley Holz, Kristin Hyder, Justice Jones, Lindie Landinham, Tyla Lane, Natalie Lawson, Kaycee Lewis, Jamie Miglionico, Cathryn Palenske, Ashley Pullen, Jordyn Purifoy, Bailey Rathmann, Cassidy Raven, Alexis Richardson, Lauren Rigdon, Hannah Robertson, Darien Shoults, Hannah Steece, and Courtney Triplett—for both challenging themselves and setting an example for their fellow students and youth in our community.

Fort Walton Beach High's victory at the Florida High School Athletic Association Cheerleading State Championship is a testament to the commitment and dedication of all the members of the team, and it is a great reflection on the entire Fort Walton Beach and greater Northwest Florida community. On behalf of the United States Congress, my wife Vicki and I congratulate the Vikings for this extraordinary accomplishment and wish them continued success.

HONORING MARTIN GILCHRIST

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, in the mid-1800s, Martin Gilchrist migrated from Churchville, West Virginia to Jefferson County, Mississippi and shortly after the Civil War, he married the love of his life; the union of Martin Gilchrist and Gracie Net-

ties Gilchrist began the Gilchrist family in Jefferson County, Mississippi, which has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the Gilchrist family has produced many well-respected citizens and five of the patriarchs and matriarchs of the family were born to Martin and Gracie Gilchrist. The children were Martin, Geoid, Joanna, Evalene and Marie all of whom served as pillars of strength for the Gilchrist family; and

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Gilchrist family, including Ms. Doretha McGlory one of our most beloved citizens in our District; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Gilchrist family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's family reunion in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Gilchrist family in our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim July 11, 2014 as Gilchrist Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 11th day of July, 2014.

HONORING NOLAND SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Noland Smith who is a native Jacksonian and was reared in the Virden Addition Community. He attended Lake, Brinkley and G. N. Smith Elementary Schools. He continued his education at Lanier High and graduated from Brinkley High School. Continuing his education, he graduated from Tennessee State University.

Mr. Smith played professional football with the Kansas City Chiefs and the San Francisco 49'ers.

He has had tenure with the City of Jackson in the Public Service Careers Department. He has served as Director of Youth Division/Allied Service Department, Contract Supervision-CATEC and Employer Service Representative.

Mr. Smith has received many special honors: Inducted into the Tennessee State University Hall of Fame, March of Dimes Hall of Fame, Heart of Gold Volunteer Award, Co-Founder/Co-Chairman of the National Football League Player Association of Mississippi Chapter and received the Jefferson Award for Community Service sponsored by Cablevision. He retired as the coordinator of the Medgar Evers Community Center.

Mr. Noland Smith is married to Gloria J. McKinnie Smith and they have three children: Nolan Jr., Tonya and Kelvin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Noland Smith.

IN HONOR OF COMMANDER ERIK FRANZEN

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Erik Franzen for his outstanding and invaluable service to his community and the United States of America, as he embarks on a new mission at his next command, Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

Commander Erik Franzen began his naval career in 1991 after graduating from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies and was commissioned through the NROTC program.

In 2010, Commander Erik Franzen reported onboard the Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro as the Executive Officer. He later assumed command of the installation on July 1, 2013 and spearheaded several infrastructure improvements to NAF El Centro. These enhancements included a complete remodel of the Naval Exchange Building and the Take 5 coffee shop, an overhaul of the sports complex, installation of artificial turf on the sports field and sundry improvements to workspaces throughout the base.

As a result of Commander Erik Franzen's guidance and leadership, NAF El Centro has increased in mission capability, improved customer service to visiting detachments and seen a tremendous boost to the overall morale of the base. I applaud Commander Erik Franzen for his distinguished service to NAF El Centro, the Imperial Valley, and the nation.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOE SCHNEIDER

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joe Schneider. The recent emotion and debate surrounding immigration in the U.S. has detracted from some great stories about those immigrants who helped to found and shape this country. I would like to share a story about one of those immigrants.

Joe Schneider was born in Kernei, Yugoslavia in 1929. While his father was off fighting in World War II, Joe led his displaced family on a journey throughout Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and ultimately Vienna, Austria. As refugees, the war years were extremely challenging and although he lost a leg at age 15, he never lost his desire or ability to support and lead his mother and four younger siblings.

His family was given the opportunity to leave Austria and arrived in the U.S. as immigrants in 1951. Joe was extremely proud of his German heritage but his love for this country was something he never stopped talking about. Without speaking a word of English and missing a leg he set out to start working as a tailor. He often talked about living in the land of opportunity and how it afforded anyone and everyone the chance to start and own their own business. He finally lived his dream when

he founded Joe's Tailor Shop at age 50. For more than 25 years, Joe's small family business created employment and provided for more than 20 families.

In 1953, Joe met Katharina Schaeffer, who was also an immigrant from Kernei. They had three children, Hermann (Christine), Robert and Monica (John) as well as three grandchildren, Michael, Lauren and Megan. The family was blessed to be able to celebrate Joe and Katharina's 60th wedding anniversary in February of this year.

For the past ten years Joe had been the President of the Kerneier Pleasure Club in Chicago. As a leader in Chicago's German-American community, he balanced the preservation of old world traditions with a love and belief in the American way of life. The recent World Cup soccer match between the U.S. and Germany could have created a conflict but Joe clearly supported Team USA.

I'm not sure he had a bucket list but I do know he had watched a family grow and flourish, experienced all the richness life can offer, and was able to look back with very few regrets. I also know the investment he made in his family and friends paid dividends throughout his whole life. Although he will be sadly missed, his love for his country and family will live on forever.

CONGRATULATING THE LIONS CLUB OF RICHMOND, INDIANA

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lions Club of Richmond Indiana on its 90th Anniversary.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization. These clubs provide invaluable services to people in communities across the county and around the globe. Lions Clubs help to fight blindness, protect the environment, feed the hungry, and assist seniors and people with disabilities. The Richmond Lions Club has been an asset to people in east-central Indiana, serving this community for nearly a century.

This outstanding achievement would not have been possible without the dedication, commitment and vision exhibited by today's club members and those over the past 90 years. These community leaders who diligently serve for the good of the public set an example for all Hoosiers to follow.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating the Lions Club of Richmond, Indiana on its 90th Anniversary and thanking them for their continued service. I have no doubt that the extraordinary individuals who make up this great institution will be serving the people of Richmond for many more years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE PAXTON LADY CATS AS CLASS 1A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS AND HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF COACH RANDY INFINGER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Congressional District of Florida's Paxton School girls basketball team for winning the Class 1A Basketball State Championship and honor the life of Coach Randy Infinger.

The Paxton Lady Cats ended a spectacular season with a record of 26-3 to clinch this year's state championship. The final game was played against Chipley High School on February 20, 2014, in Lakeland, Florida, with the Lady Cats claiming victory with a score of 39-34. Many of the exceptional plays leading up to the victory occurred in the final quarter of this tightly contested championship game. Senior Emily Murray scored a game-high 20 points on the strength of four 3-pointers, including a game-winning three pointer with just 38 seconds left on the clock. With their victory, the Lady Cats secured Paxton's fifth girls basketball state championship, moving them into fifth place on the all-time Florida girls basketball championship list. Their latest state championship marks another proud moment in the sports history of Northwest Florida high school basketball.

Sadly, on February 23, 2014, four days after their extraordinary victory, the Paxton Lady Cats and the entire Paxton community were struck by tragedy when long-time Paxton Assistant Coach Randy Infinger passed away. Throughout his dedicated 25-year career at Paxton School, Mr. Infinger coached several teams and touched the hearts of countless students and teachers. His contributions to Northwest Florida and Paxton School were truly exceptional, and his legacy will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of Northwest Florida, I would like to honor and remember Coach Randy Infinger and congratulate players Katie Sebastian (#3), Quinn Williams (#4), Cortni McKee (#5), Faith Elmore (#11), Emily Murray (#12), Sidney Beck (#14), Genesis Long (#15), Lenora Dixon (#21), Allison Carnley (#22), Annie Myles (#23), Bethany Neale (#24), Cassidy Brazile (#25), Payton Malloy (#30), and Kristen Corbett (#45); Head Coach, Steve Williams; Assistant Coach, Kim Corbett; Bookkeeper, Laurie Gilbert; Statistician, Connor Williams; Principal Beth Tucker; Assistant Principal Mitch Jackson; and Athletic Director Steve Williams for their extraordinary victory. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to Paxton School and its talented athletes and coaches for their continued academic and athletic success, as well as our prayers and most sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Infinger and the entire Paxton community for their tremendous loss.

REMEMBERING DAVID STEPHEN CONRAD

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a great Alabamian and a proud Mobilian, Mr. David Stephen Conrad, or just "D" as he was known to his family.

Mr. Conrad was born in Boston, Massachusetts on August 30, 1939, but he called Mobile home for the last 49 years. He graduated from the University of Alabama and Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, Alabama. He passed away on September 3, 2014.

Mr. Speaker, David loved the law and took great pleasure in his profession. He co-founded the firm of Conrad & Hammond, which is known today as Conrad, Barlar, and McCulloch. He was well-known throughout the legal community as a lawyer possessing the difficult balance of class, respect, and courtesy, while always being the strongest advocate possible for his clients. He was always willing to assist and mentor his fellow lawyers, providing counsel on personal and professional matters wherever requested.

He was an active member of his personal and professional communities. He served as past Vice President and board member for the Alzheimer's Association, past member of the Board of Directors of the Springhill Avenue Temple, past member of the Board of Directors of the Mobile Jewish Welfare Association, past Secretary and Vice President of the Mobile Bar Association, past member of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Trial Lawyers Association, member of the Alabama and Mobile Bar Associations, past Regional Board Member for the Southern District of the Commercial Law League of America, past member of the Board of Directors of the Mobile Medical Endowment Fund, past member of the Board of Directors of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, past member of Ducks Unlimited, and past officer of the Board of Directors for Mobile Big Game Fishing Association.

David Conrad always tried to see and find the best in every human. He approached every obstacle he faced with an unwavering positive attitude, the quintessential "eternal optimist." He loved his wife, children, and grandchildren deeply. He always enjoyed spending time with his family at their family house known as "Camp David."

David is survived by his wife, Norma, his son, Jeff (Chris) Conrad of Mobile, his daughters, Wendy (Neal) Aronson of Atlanta, Georgia, and Jill (Christopher) Hufnagel of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is also survived by his 7 grandchildren: Matthew, Will, and Ellie Aronson; Stephen and Sydney Conrad; and Owen and Henry Hufnagel.

Mr. Speaker, I want to add my name to the chorus of individuals who were personally touched by David Conrad. I pray that his family and friends will find peace during this difficult time, but that they will find comfort in remembering the good times and great memories they shared with David.